



**MINUTES OF THE GILA COUNTY
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

Thursday, June 16, 2016

GILA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEARING ROOM
1400 E Ash St., Globe, AZ
10:00 am

REGULAR MEETING

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:23 a.m. by Chairman Mickie Nye.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Mickie Nye.
3. Roll Call: Christine Lopez did roll call; Chairman Mickie Nye, Vice-Chairman Ray Jones, Mary Lou Myers, Travis Williams, Randy Slapnicka, Jay Spehar, Kurtis Knauss, and Travis Holder. All present. A quorum is present.

Community Development Staff Members Present: Robert Gould-Planner, Bill Hanna-Code Enforcement, Christine Lopez-Administrative Clerk, and Margie Chapman Code Compliance Supervisor/Zoning Assistant.

4. Membership/New Members: Introduction of Kurtis Knauss, new Planning and Zoning Commissioner and Board of Adjustment member representing District 2. He lives in Ice House Canyon near the community college. He was on the City of Globe Planning and Zoning Board until he moved outside the city limits and had to resign. He works for a local mining company in technical training.
5. Review and Approval of Minutes of the Planning and Zoning Commission Hearing on February 18, 2016. Mickie Nye asked if there were any changes needed and there wasn't. Mary Lou Myers motioned that the minutes be approved as is and Jay Spehar seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.
6. **Director/Commission Communication:** At any time during this meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission and Planner Bob Gould of Community Development may present a brief summary of current events.

Mickie Nye opened the floor up to Bob Gould. One vacant Planning and Zoning Commission member remains to be filled from District 3. Jay Spehar asked who resigned to cause that particular vacancy. Dawn Brunson resigned because she lives in an incorporated area. Ray Jones suggested Kathy Meyer. Christine Lopez states Ms. Meyer had been approached and she turned the position down. Bob Gould plans to present at the next Commission meeting reports related to rezoning of the area near CeMex and the railroad shop. It is currently zoned R1 (Residential-1). This will involve both rezoning and amendment of the comprehensive plan. He is concerned the people on Quail Run may oppose this. Jay Spehar stated that area should have been a commercial/industrial corridor when the comprehensive plan was originally done. Mickie Nye asked about the status of a new Community Development Director. Bob Gould, Jay Spehar and the Commission Members discussed this. Bob Gould plans to present at the next Commission

meeting reports related to the rezoning and amendment of the comprehensive plan of the area along Highway 188. This area is zoned C3 but there are residential units in this area. The C3 zoning makes it difficult to obtain residential financing. Mickie Nye asked about a new comprehensive plan. Bob Gould said that is waiting until after the appointment of a new Community Development Director. Bob Gould returned the floor to Chairman Mickie Nye. Mickie Nye asked if there were any questions of Bob Gould. There were no questions.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION

7. Discussion of Marijuana Ordinance.

Randy Slapnicka requested this be placed on the agenda. He reviewed the ordinance and is concerned the ordinance is too restrictive and may discriminate against this industry. \$5,000 a year for a permit is a large fee. Recreational Marijuana will be on the ballot in November. He wants to discuss with Commission Members revenue options for the County and feedback on how Commission Members feel. Mickie Nye pointed out this \$5,000 fee is for a business with 1.5 million dollar budget. He felt that the \$5,000 fee would off-set some of the County's expenses related to these businesses such as additional deputies. He felt that a marijuana business should get a permit so that he would know what is going on in his neighborhood. He wants to know what is coming into his neighborhood and any issues that brings. This is a means to manage this industry and for the County to recoup expenses. Jay Spehar said the Commission should revisit this issue if and when recreational marijuana passes. The concern at the time was that marijuana would be grown in neighborhoods and affect those neighborhoods. This process provides recourse to neighbors and protects the County. He is not opposed to revisiting this down the road. If the law changes, that is a good opportunity to revisit the ordinance. Bob Gould was asked if he had any feedback as far as administration of the ordinance. Mr. Gould said no one has applied for a conditional use permit to grow their own marijuana. Arizona Department of Health Services is not telling Gila County where the marijuana card holders are located. Randy Slapnicka believes the astronomical \$5,000 fee has pushed these people underground. He believes these remote ranches are the perfect place for cultivation centers. If we lower the fee, it will get these people back on the radar so we know what is happening in the community. Mr. Gould and Commission Members discuss fees and how applied by the ordinance. Jay Spehar does not believe the ordinance has inhibited medical marijuana use. If Arizona law changes, then changes to the ordinance can be reviewed at that time. Randy Slapnicka is in favor of a three tier fee system. The \$5,000 fee keeps the County from knowing what is going on in the community. Jay Spehar said the problem is not the fee; it is that Arizona Department of Health Services is not telling Gila County where these facilities are located. Bob Gould said he would e-mail the fee schedule to the Commission Members. It will also be available at the next meeting. Mickie Nye agreed marijuana is a good economic development opportunity for the County and it will be an issue next year. Mickie Nye asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

8. Adjournment. Travis Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mary Lou Myers seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 10:56 a.m.